

PCSS-B Training

An Educational Resource for Those Treating Patients with Opioid Use Disorders

HOT TOPICS In Buprenorphine Treatment

*A webinar series offered by the American Psychiatric Association
as part of the CSAT-Funded Physicians Clinical Support System-Buprenorphine (PCSS-B)*

The American Psychiatric Association offers monthly webinars for physicians who have waivers to treat Opioid dependence in office-based settings and other interested clinicians. The presentations address cutting-edge topics in treating substance use disorders and feature nationally prominent clinical experts, researchers, and government officials. Join us the **second Tuesday of each month at noon Eastern.**

DATE/TIME:

Tuesday, January 10, 2012: Noon – 1 p.m. Eastern

TOPIC:

Embedding Addiction Services in General Medicine

PRESENTER:

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Director, Division of Epidemiology, Services and Prevention Research
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Drug use and addictions are highly prevalent in the population and are associated with a broad range of serious health outcomes. Yet, most patients do not seek treatment on their own or seek treatment only when their condition has progressed to the most serious and chronic stages. Recent health care reforms (e.g. health care parity and greater insurance coverage for the uninsured) are expected to address this issue by providing insurance coverage for addiction services and for prevention and early treatment. Because many of these patients will be seen in general medical settings for related medical illnesses, the possibility for early identification and intervention is great.

Addressing drug use and addictions in general medical settings requires improved systems for case identification. Promising approaches include models of Screening and Brief Intervention or Referral to Treatment (SBIRT). New data supports the extension of effective SBIRT approaches for tobacco and alcohol to include illicit drugs. Models are being developed for both adults and adolescents, as well as related care for traumatized persons. Key developments for the future include embedding systems for screening and case identification into the electronic health record system. In addition, work to develop new medications for addictions have implications for the medical field as the prescribers will often be in general medical settings (as opposed to substance abuse specialty care).

Overall, embedding substance abuse interventions into the general health system is expected to improve patient care and outcomes. Key domain include addressing SBIRT, medication assisted treatment, and clinician training. The emerging health care reforms in the USA provide new opportunities, especially for addiction services.

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